

### Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of restoring debugging breakpoints, said method comprising:

having a breakpoint that is set to a selected step of a program; and

automatically restoring, after modification of the program, the breakpoint to the selected step, wherein the selected step is at a different location within the modified program.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said automatically restoring comprises locating the selected step within the modified program, said locating comprising comparing at least one attribute of one or more attributes of the selected step to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the automatically restoring comprises:

locating the selected step within the modified program; and

setting the breakpoint at that location.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the locating comprises using an instruction profile to locate the selected step.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the instruction profile comprises one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions generated for the selected step.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said locating comprises comparing at least one attribute of the one or more attributes of the instruction profile to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

7. The method of claim 5, further comprising choosing a number of machine instructions of the selected step to be included in the instruction profile.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the choosing comprises:

selecting a number of instructions to be included in a calibration profile;

generating the calibration profile for a chosen line of the program, said calibration profile having the selected number of instructions for said chosen line;

comparing one or more attributes of said calibration profile to one or more attributes of at least one line of code of the program to obtain a result;

determining whether the result is an unambiguous result; and

repeating, zero or more times, said selecting, said generating, said comparing, and said determining until the determining indicates an unambiguous result, wherein the selected number of instruction increases at each iteration, and wherein the selected number of instructions indicates, when there is an indication of an unambiguous result, the number of machine instructions to be included in the instruction profile.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the different location comprises a different line number within the modified program.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said having the breakpoint set comprises requesting, by a user, that the breakpoint be set at the selected step.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said automatically restoring is performed by a debugger.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the debugger is a distributed debugger.

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13. A method of facilitating debugging of programs,  
said method comprising:

using a debugger to step through a program  
until it reaches a breakpoint at a selected step;  
and

re-running the debugger, subsequent to  
revising the program, to step through the revised  
program until it reaches the breakpoint at the  
selected step, said breakpoint automatically  
restored, subsequent to the revising, to the  
selected step, regardless of the location of the  
selected step within the revised program.

POU920010034US1

14. A system of restoring debugging breakpoints, said system comprising:

a breakpoint set to a selected step of a program; and

means for automatically restoring, after modification of the program, the breakpoint to the selected step, wherein the selected step is at a different location within the modified program.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein said means for automatically restoring comprises means for locating the selected step within the modified program, said means for locating comprising means for comparing at least one attribute of one or more attributes of the selected step to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the means for automatically restoring comprises:

means for locating the selected step within the modified program; and

means for setting the breakpoint at that location.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the means for locating comprises means for using an instruction profile to locate the selected step.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the instruction profile comprises one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions generated for the selected step.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said means for locating comprises means for comparing at least one attribute of the one or more attributes of the instruction profile to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

20. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for choosing a number of machine instructions of the selected step to be included in the instruction profile.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the means for choosing comprises:

means for selecting a number of instructions to be included in a calibration profile;

means for generating the calibration profile for a chosen line of the program, said calibration profile having the selected number of instructions for said chosen line;

means for comparing one or more attributes of said calibration profile to one or more attributes of at least one line of code of the program to obtain a result;

means for determining whether the result is an unambiguous result; and

means for repeating, zero or more times, the selecting, the generating, the comparing, and the determining until the determining indicates an unambiguous result, wherein the selected number of instruction increases at each iteration, and wherein the selected number of instructions indicates, when there is an indication of an unambiguous result, the number of machine instructions to be included in the instruction profile.



22. The system of claim 14, wherein the different location comprises a different line number within the modified program.

23. The system of claim 14, further comprising means for requesting, by a user, that the breakpoint be set at the selected step.

24. The system of claim 14, wherein said means for automatically restoring is provided within a debugger.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the debugger is a distributed debugger.

POU920010034US1

26. A system of facilitating debugging of programs,  
said system comprising:

means for using a debugger to step through a  
program until it reaches a breakpoint at a  
selected step; and

means for re-running the debugger, subsequent  
to revising the program, to step through the  
revised program until it reaches the breakpoint at  
the selected step, said breakpoint automatically  
restored, subsequent to the revising, to the  
selected step, regardless of the location of the  
selected step within the revised program.

POU920010034US1

27. A system of restoring debugging breakpoints, said system comprising:

a breakpoint set to a selected step of a program; and

a debugger to automatically restore, after modification of the program, the breakpoint to the selected step, wherein the selected step is at a different location within the modified program.

POU920010034US1

28. A system of facilitating debugging of programs, said system comprising:

a debugger to step through a program until it reaches a breakpoint at a selected step; and

the debugger to be re-run, after the program is revised, to step through the revised program until it reaches the breakpoint at the selected step, the breakpoint automatically restored, subsequent to revision of the program, to the selected step, regardless of the location of the selected step within the revised program.

29. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of restoring debugging breakpoints, said method comprising:

having a breakpoint that is set to a selected step of a program; and

automatically restoring, after modification of the program, the breakpoint to the selected step, wherein the selected step is at a different location within the modified program.

30. The at least one program storage device of claim 29, wherein said automatically restoring comprises locating the selected step within the modified program, said locating comprising comparing at least one attribute of one or more attributes of the selected step to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

31. The at least one program storage device of claim 29, wherein the automatically restoring comprises:

locating the selected step within the modified program; and

setting the breakpoint at that location.

32. The at least one program storage device of claim 31, wherein the locating comprises using an instruction profile to locate the selected step.

33. The at least one program storage device of claim 32, wherein the instruction profile comprises one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions generated for the selected step.

34. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, wherein said locating comprises comparing at least one attribute of the one or more attributes of the instruction profile to at least one attribute of one or more attributes of one or more machine instructions of one or more lines of code of the modified program to locate the selected step.

35. The at least one program storage device of claim 33, wherein said method further comprises choosing a number of machine instructions of the selected step to be included in the instruction profile.

36. The at least one program storage device of claim 35, wherein the choosing comprises:

selecting a number of instructions to be included in a calibration profile;

generating the calibration profile for a chosen line of the program, said calibration profile having the selected number of instructions for said chosen line;

comparing one or more attributes of said calibration profile to one or more attributes of at least one line of code of the program to obtain a result;

determining whether the result is an unambiguous result; and

repeating, zero or more times, said selecting, said generating, said comparing, and said determining until the determining indicates an unambiguous result, wherein the selected number of instruction increases at each iteration, and wherein the selected number of instructions indicates, when there is an indication of an unambiguous result, the number of machine instructions to be included in the instruction profile.

37. The at least one program storage device of claim 29, wherein the different location comprises a different line number within the modified program.

38. The at least one program storage device of claim 29, wherein said having the breakpoint set comprises requesting, by a user, that the breakpoint be set at the selected step.

39. The at least one program storage device of claim 29, wherein said automatically restoring is performed by a debugger.

40. The at least one program storage device of claim 39, wherein the debugger is a distributed debugger.

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41. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating debugging of a program, said method comprising:

using a debugger to step through a program until it reaches a breakpoint at a selected step; and

re-running the debugger, subsequent to revising the program, to step through the revised program until it reaches the breakpoint at the selected step, said breakpoint automatically restored, subsequent to the revising, to the selected step, regardless of the location of the selected step within the revised program.

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